

MINUTES OF MEETING
MAPLE-STEELE JOINT WATER RESOURCE DISTRICT
PAGE AUDITORIUM
PAGE, NORTH DAKOTA
JULY 25, 2012

The Maple-Steele Joint Water Resource District met July 25, 2012, at 9:00 a.m. at the Page Auditorium, Page, North Dakota.

Present were Jurgen Suhr, Chairman; Rodger Olson and Gerald Melvin, Maple River Water Resource District; Josh Ihry, Steele County Water Resource District; Carol Harbeke Lewis, Secretary-Treasurer; Sean Fredricks, Attorney for the Board; Chad Engels, Mike Opat, Engineers for the Board; Jill Borth, Steele County Water Resource District Secretary-Treasurer; Brad Dahl, Moore Engineering, Inc.; Gale Washburn, property owner in Carpenter Township; and those whose names appear on the attached roster. Greg Thykeson and Tor Bergstrom, Steele County Water Resource District, were absent.

Reorganization of the Board for calendar year 2012

It was moved by Manager Olson and seconded by Manager Melvin to appoint the following officers for the year 2012:

Jurgen Suhr	Chairman
Greg Thykeson	Vice Chairman
Carol Harbeke Lewis	Secretary-Treasurer

Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Minutes

It was moved by Manager Olson, seconded by Manager Melvin and unanimously carried to approve the minutes of the May 3, 2012, meeting. Upon roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously.

Upper Maple River Dam

Mike Opat gave an overview of the project. He explained that the Environmental Assessment process to investigate and analyze potential environmental and cultural impacts of the project is ongoing.

The dam would have a 36" outlet pipe and a 65' concrete spillway. The pool area at elevations 1224 and 1230 was reviewed. A tieback levee could be constructed to minimize impacts to approximately 100 acres. Water would have to be going over the emergency spillway to back-up against the tieback levee. The road just south of Sussex Dam would be raised above the 1230 level and the road just north of the proposed dam along the north side of Section 35 in Carpenter Township would be closed.

Peak reduction from the dam at various flood frequencies was reviewed. Peak reduction is very good at a 100-year event for this type of structure.

Harold Zerface said landowners would like more information than what they have received. He said they will lose income now and for generations after that because of the project. Chairman Suhr said the Board does not have information beyond what has been provided at this point. They are currently working on the permit and when there is more information, they will provide it to them.

Chad Engels addressed questions about Sussex Dam. He said the dam is too small to make much difference.

Mr. Zerface said the land needed for the project could be valued as development land, similar to development land in Fargo. Manager Olson said this project is too far away to show benefit to the peak at Fargo. Mr. Engels said this project is for local benefit. Property owners can sell their property or take a flowage easement if they want to keep the land and use it. The Board will initiate a negotiation process with property owners after they obtain a permit for the project. The value will reflect what it is worth today. Payment cannot be made for long term future income on the land. The property would be purchased where the dam would be constructed. Trading land is another option that may be available. Concerns about crop insurance, levels of grazing and farming were also discussed.

The project cost and potential cost-share was discussed.

Permission for cultural surveys has been received from all but two property owners. A consultant will be out in the next week or two. The work is needed for the Environmental Assessment process and they hope to complete it by December.

The next public meeting will probably be next year when the status of the permit is known.

Adjournment

There being no further business to be considered by the Board, it was moved by Manager Melvin, seconded by Manager Ihry and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting adjourned.

APPROVED:

Jurgen Suhr
Chairman

ATTEST:

Carol Harbeke Lewis
Secretary-Treasurer